Secrt. II-27—45,004—14-11-29.

Public (Genl) (1930) Department.

MS. SERIES.

G.O. No. 1586

DATED 13.12.30

[Despatch Abstract.]

Criminal Procedure Code - Sec 144 —
Order issued by the D.M of Bellary
prohibiting meetings etc in
Bellary town = Extended

Public 110

C.F. 32

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.

DEPARTMENT 10-12-30

Received 4798 Registered

From (Name) A.M.A.C. Galletti Esquire, M.A.,I.C.S.,

(Designation) District Magistrate,

Post Box ....., (STATION) Bellary.

Telegraphic Address .....

GOVERNMENT 10 DEC 1930 LAW DEPARTMENT

To The Secretary to Government,

Law (General) Department,

Madras.

Ref.C. *No.* 6701/30A *dated* 8.12.30. 192

Sir,

ENCLOSURES (3)

SPARE COPIES

*Criminal Procedure Code -Section 144 Cr.P.C. - Bellary Town and within a radius of 5 miles therefrom - extension up to the end of March 1931 - application -

p.3 infra

I enclose herein a copy of order in C.M.P.39 of 30 dated 22.10.30 under Section 144 Cr.P.C. issued by my predecessor Mr. Bennett prohibiting the holding of public meetings, Prabhatferies or other demonstrations connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement in and near Bellary town to be in force for a period of 2 months. This period expires by the 21st instant.

Pp.4-6 infra

2. This District as far as I can judge from a short experience, the papers in the office and what the District Superintendent of Police tells me, is in no way disaffected. There are a few Congress men who may think it their duty to their party to continue their activities if they are not prohibited, but will be only too glad of the issue of a prohibitory order. If I had to deal only with these people I should perhaps not apply for the extension of the orders. But owing to our proximity to unhappy Bombay, it is to be feared that Bombay agitators will cross the frontier hoping to be allowed to do what they like by the more benignant Madras Government, and I cannot recommend that they be allowed to hold meetings here. The newly appointed Karnatka "Dictator" is a Bellary

3

CM P.39/20

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF BELLARY.

E. Bennett Esq., I.C.S.,

Dated 22nd October 1930.

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144 CR.P.C.

Information has been laid before me by the Police that the activities of the Congress Volunteers and their sympathisers in Bellary constitute a nuisance to the Public. Meetings are held at which seditious speeches are made and at which public servants are vilified and called on to resign their appointments. Moreover, processions go round the town preaching sedition and singing seditious songs. These processions interfere with traffic and the liberties of the public generally. In some cases the speakers openly attack the Muhammadan community and even some individual merchants by name. Such acti ties disturb the public tranquility and may lead to a breach of peace.

I therefore prohibit any public meeting, processions, 'Prabhat Pheri' or other demonstration connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement in Bellary Town and within a radius of 5 miles from the Municipal limits for a period of two months.

Given under my hand and seal this 22nd day of October 1930.

E Bennett I.C.S.

A.S.N./23-10. District Magistrate.

23/10

To The Sub divisional magistrate, Bellary.
Taluk Magistrate, Hby in the magistrate Bellary
D.S.P. Bellary and By Supdt of Police Adoni
Copy to the Dist + Sessions Judge Bellary
To the public of Bellary.
Inspector of Police, Bellary with 60 copies
Copy to the Treasury Deputy Collector for
Bellary for publication in the District
Gazette.
Copy to Police Board.
(True Copy)

for Sd. Hamilton

Copy of letter from the District Superintendent of Police, Bellary to the District Magistrate, Bellary No.Nil dated 27.11.30.

I have the honour to return your C.No. 6701/30A.2 dated 24.11.30 in original with my report.

From the beginning of the present Congress or Satyagraha agitation Bellary District has been in the happy position of having all the local men of influence on the side of moderation and definitely against all incitement to law breaking. Motives in every case may not have been the same.

Bellary is a District or certainly that part of the district in which Bellary town lies, is a locality, very prone to factions, but the history of these factions show that they expire at once without a leader. The excitement of being "agin" the Government" is very similar to that of being a factionist. The congress sympathisers have never had the leader. Tekur Subramaniam, the first leader was a vakil with very little practice, though a local man, he cut little ice. Kallur Subba Rao and Muthyala Rao were popular speakers, especially the latter, but foreigners, the former from Ananatapur and the latter from Cocanada. The last real leader and by far the most capable and dangerous was Seshagiri Rao and he, luckily until he resigned for the purpose of taking up congress work, had been a promising bank clerk in the Imperial Bank and practically unknown outside his business.

As long as the Congress programme was one of mere meetings, we were perfectly content to leave them alone. The audience was always one of school boys and passers by and with influential opinion against the Congress speakers could do no harm. We contented ourselves with putting away the speakers(above mentioned and one or two others) if they said anything particularly seditious; but as a popular movement, it was ridiculous.

Seshagiri Rao appears to have realised that the movement was making no headway and realised also the nearness of Bellary to the badly affected Bombay Presidency. He it was that first recruited or canvassed Dharwar and Hubli volunteers for work in Bellary and the theatrical Bombay methods of "prabhata feri" processions were

started. [illegible] of these daily processions took the place of the [illegible] the event showed symptoms of either a revival of the [illegible] processionists, by this time they had been estimated, were [illegible] and strong and there were [illegible] such as the [illegible] of foreign cloth, and the cutting down of the Votive tree in the Collector's office compound at Dharwar, of revolt against authority.

It was decided that the time for action had come, Seshagiri Rao and 12 or 15 volunteers from Dharwar were put in jail and orders under 144 prohibiting meetings etc. promulgated. One meeting on the first day only, had to be dispersed by a minimum of force. Bellary was content, the supposed leader was a failure.

After Seshagiri Rao a non-entity by name Nagavendra Rao, was nominated leader(Secretary). He fled Bellary and stayed in Harpanahalli, the only other place in the District where the movement had had any success owing to a large community of Brahmins, but was put away for a year for speeches he made there; and prohibitory orders under 144 were similarly applied to that place. While Nagavendra Rao was away in Harpanahalli the only intransigent in Bellary was a remarried Poona Brahmin widow, Mrs. Krutinjia Sastri. Her husband is a local Vakil who is terrified of the effects that his wife's enthusiasm may have on his own prospects. She has written to Dharwar asking them to send volunteers to defy the 144 orders and has received the reply that the 15 or so already sent have been put in jail and Bellary must supply its own jail fodder.

So the position is at present. Bellary without any other leader is perfectly content with an authority which issues orders and will not disobey them. Bombay presidency, or the "Karnatika" will not send volunteers to what they consider is certain jail for work in a foreign district.

In the meanwhile Hosa Balappa Municipal Chairman of Harpanahalli has been nominated "Dictator of the Karnatika" and with headquarters at Dharwar, to which place he has gone. I know him personally and do not think much of him as a character either as a friend or enemy but the fact remains that he is a Bellary District man and Dist for etc. at Dharwar.

The reference on which I am [illegible] this report is my

says that proposals should be submitted before the 10th and that only strong cases can be recommended. " Rumour" will not crystallise into " information " until two or three days before the date of expiry of the order under 144. At present all I can say is that there is no intention to break the law, but that directly the Sec. 144 order expires, there will be a simultaneous influx of volunteers from Dharwar and Hubli and prabhat feries etc. will commence on a large scale. Every thing is in my opinion in favour of this. There is the further danger that C.Rajagopalachar who is at present in the Central jail in Bellary has been arging through released prisoners that "Andhra and Tamilnad" volunteers should be brought here to further the movement. His intermediary is Belladona Bhima Rao who, I am almost sure, would not wish to declare himself openly, and would not encourage anyone to demonstrate while S. 144 is in force.

In these circumstances I am certain that if S.144 is extended there will be no attempt at disobedience and is just that the extension would receive general approbation, and I am equally certain that if it is not extended we will see a recrudesence or rather an aggravation of what has already occurred.

True Copy.

9/12

For District Magistrate.

R.V. 8.12

8/12

12-11-XII
MC

7

Public (Genl) Dept

Subject — Cr. P. C. Sec 144 — Bellary town — Publication of C.D. activities — D M's or. extension

From the D.M. of Bellary, Ref. C. No. 6701/30 A2 dated 6.12.30

Please see the letter of the D.M. of Bellary in the C.F. The order now in force in Bellary expires on 21.12.30 He requests that it may be extended till the end of March 1931 (i.e. for 3 months and 10 days). A draft order is submitted for consideration

2. The extension order must be published in next Tuesday's (16.12.30) Gazette

Yes

11-12-30

CS

13 DEC 1930
CHIEF SECTT.

CHIEF SECRETARY
13 DEC
GOVT. OF MADRAS

Secrt. II-5 (a)—50,406—5-11-29.

Public (Genl) DEPARTMENT.

	Date.	Initials.
When received for Fair-copying.		
When copied ..		
When examined ..		
When signed ..		
When despatched ..		

Criminal Procedure Code- Sec 144
Order issued by the D.M of Bellary
prohibiting meetings etc

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ....., dated 19

" " " ..... " 19

READ ALSO :—

C. No. ..... From the ..... , No. ..... , dated 19

" ..... " " ..... " 19

" ..... " " ..... " 19

" ..... " " ..... " 19

ORDER.

No. 1586, dated 13.12. 1930

The following notification shall be published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

Notification.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (6) of section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898, the Governor in Council hereby directs that the order issued under the said section by the D.M of Bellary in his C.M.P No. 39/30 dated 22.10.1930, prohibiting any public meeting,

p3CF

See para 2, p3CF

processions, Prabhata pheri or other demonstration connected with the civil disobedience movement in Bellary town and within a radius of five miles from the municipal limits, ~~for a period of~~ shall remain in force upto the 1st April 1931.

ZK 11./12-30

11/12

11/12

11/12

See para 2, p 3 C/F

113

2

See D.Ms original at p 2 C/F

13/XII

1 To the S.G.P for the publication of the Notification in the next issue of the G.S.G. Gazette.

2 To the D.M of Bellary, with Ref to his Ref CNo. 6701/30 A2 dated 6-12-30.

3 To the I.G of Police.

The C... to be S... by the ... with the ... of the ... must be ... taken

ZK 13/12

Mr Nand

Please see the ... the ... action in ...

21/12/30